

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 6, 2004. Claims 28 to 54 are in the application, of which Claims 28, 42, 43, 44, 53 and 54 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 28 to 53 were allowed by the Examiner in the Notice of Allowability dated March 9, 2004. Independent Claims 28, 42, 43, 44 and 53 have been amended to recite that the electric connecting portion comprises at least one of a recessed coupler or pin. As conceded by the Notice of Allowability, none of the applied art is seen to disclose or suggest an electric connecting portion comprising a plurality of recessed couplers. It is also believed that none of the applied art is seen to teach an electric connecting portion that comprises at least one of a recessed coupler or pin. As such, Claims 28 to 53 are believed to be allowable.

Claim 54 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,631,988 (Swirhun). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to an optical wiring device comprising an electric connector, optical transmission means for transmitting an optical signal, and an optical conversion device that conducts an optoelectric conversion. The optical conversion device has at least an optical device, and the optical conversion device is disposed between the electric connector and the optical transmission means. The optical transmission means and the optical conversion device are fixed such that the optical transmission means is

undisconnectedly coupled to the optical conversion device. In addition, the electric connector has a first connector including at least one of a recessed coupler or pin, and the optical conversion device has a second connector. The first connector and second connector are able to be connected and disconnected.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or suggest the features of independent Claim 54, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the feature of an electric connector having a first connector including at least one of a recessed coupler or pin, and an optical conversion device having a second connector, wherein the first connector and second connector are able to be connected and disconnected.

Swirhun relates to a parallel optical interconnect. The Office Action contends that Swirhun's bottom and top surface of Fig. 2b corresponds to the first and second connectors, respectively, of the present invention. Applicant is unable to determine the precise identity of the surfaces to which the Office Action is referring. Nonetheless, it is respectfully submitted that no electric connector of Swirhun includes at least one of a recessed coupler or pin. Rather, as shown in Fig. 2b of Swirhun, semiconductor chip 105 is connected to dielectric substrate 90 with solder pattern 94 and metal pads 92 and 93.

As such Claim 54 is believed to allowable over the applied reference.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant
Michael K. O'Neill

Registration No. 32,622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 83314v1